

Case 3538

CORYNINAE Benson, 1938 (Insecta, Hymenoptera, CIMBICIDAE): proposed emendation of spelling to CORYNIDINAE to remove homonymy with CORYNIDAE Johnston, 1836 (Cnidaria, Anthoathecata)

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Articles 29 and 55.3.1 of the Code, is to remove the homonymy between two family-group names, CORYNINAE of Hymenoptera (Insecta) and CORYNIDAE of Anthoathecata (Cnidaria). It is proposed to adopt the Greek genitive form *Corynid-* of the sawfly genus *Corynis* Thunberg, 1789 as the stem of the corresponding family-group name, giving CORYNIDINAE Benson, 1938. CORYNIDAE Johnston, 1836, a name for hydrozoans, would remain unchanged.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Anthoathecata; Hymenoptera; CIMBICIDAE; CORYNIDAE; CORYNIDINAE; *Coryne*; *Corynis*; sawflies; hydrozoans; Palaearctic.

1. Johnston (1836, p. 107) proposed the family-group name CORYNIDAE to accommodate a genus of hydrozoans (Cnidaria). The name is based on the extant genus *Coryne* Gaertner in Pallas, 1774 (pp. 40–41) established for *C. pusilla* Gaertner in Pallas, 1774 (pp. 40–41), which is the type species by monotypy. The journal volume including the original publication of Johnston bears the imprinted date 1834 but it was corrected to 1836 by Cornelius (1982, p. 133). Currently, CORYNIDAE is applied as the valid name of a family of Hydrozoa (e.g. Bouillon & Boero, 2000; Bouillon et al., 2006; Daly et al., 2007; Schuchert, 2001, 2010).

2. Benson (1938, p. 371) proposed the family-group name CORYNINAE, based on the extant genus of sawflies (Insecta, Hymenoptera, ‘Symphyta’) *Corynis* Thunberg, 1789 (p. 13 and footnote h), which originally included the species ‘*Tenthredinem luteam, obscuram, & hisce similes*’. These species correspond with *Tenthredo lutea* Linnaeus, 1758 (p. 555), currently classified as *Cimbex luteus* (Linnaeus, 1758) (see Taeger et al., 2010, p. 190), and *Tenthredo obscura* Fabricius, 1775 (p. 319), currently classified as *Corynis obscura* (Fabricius, 1775) (see Taeger et al. 2010, p. 199). Morice & Durrant (1915, p. 372) selected *Tenthredo obscura* Fabricius, 1775 as the type species of *Corynis*, erroneously referring to ‘*obscura L[innaeus]*’. Currently, CORYNINAE is in use for a subfamily of the sawfly family CIMBICIDAE Thomson, 1871 (e.g. Lorenz & Kraus, 1957; Benson, 1968; Abe & Smith, 1991; Ermolenko, 1972, 2001; Taeger & Blank, 1998; Taeger et al., 2010). CORYNINAE includes a single genus, *Corynis* Thunberg,

1789, which comprises 28 mostly West Palaearctic species (Benson, 1968; Taeger et al., 2010). In a forthcoming revision, a number of additional species will be described (H.-J. Jacobs et al., pers. comm.).

3. Thunberg's (1789, p. 13 and footnote h) brief original description of *Corynis* does not include an explicit etymology. The name is certainly based on the Greek noun κορύνη (club), because Thunberg's short Latin diagnosis 'Antennæ capitatae' refers to the clavate shape of the antennae, which is characteristic of *Corynis* as well as of other CIMBICIDAE. The Greek noun was correctly transliterated by Thunberg (1789) for *Corynis* and by Gaertner in Pallas, 1774 (pp. 40–41) for *Coryne*. The ending -is given by Thunberg for *Corynis* may have two explanations, which are both equally plausible: (1) it is a modification to fit into the 3rd Latin declension. In this case the stem is *Coryn-* and it conflicts with CORYNIDAE Johnston, 1836 as stated above; (2) it is a Greek suffix -is (genitive -idos) to indicate 'user of' or 'bearer of', as in the Greek noun pharmakis (sorcerer), which is derived from the Greek noun pharmakon (potion). In this case the stem would be CORYNID-, giving CORYNIDINAE for the subfamily name in CIMBICIDAE, which would not conflict with CORYNIDAE Johnston, 1836.

4. Gussakovskij (1947, pp. 14, 115, 178, 215) proposed the family-group name AMASINI, based on the extant genus of sawflies *Amasis* Leach, 1817 (pp. 102, 114). In the original description of *Amasis*, both *Tenthredo obscura* Fabricius, 1775 (p. 319) and *Tenthredo laeta* Fabricius, 1798 (p. 214) were included. Westwood (1839, p. 52) designated *Tenthredo obscura* Fabricius, 1775 as the type species. *Amasis* Leach, 1817 is a junior objective synonym of *Corynis* Thunberg, 1789 due to identical type species (Morice & Durrant, 1915, p. 372). Ermolenko (1972, p. 167) was the first to associate the family-group names AMASINI Gussakovskij, 1947 and CORYNINAE Benson, 1938, applying CORYNINAE as the valid name for the subfamily of CIMBICIDAE. Subsequent to Gussakovskij (1947), AMASINI has been used as a valid name only once by Cinovskij (1953, pp. 27, 57).

5. Since the revision of *Corynis* by Benson (1968), most authors have applied *Corynis* as the valid name for a particular sawfly genus associated with CIMBICIDAE. *Amasis* Leach, 1817 is the only available, junior synonym of *Corynis* Thunberg, 1789 (Blank et al., 2009, Taeger et al., 2010). Two lists which demonstrate the frequent use after 1968 of *Corynis* (a selection of 50 references) against the rare use of *Amasis* (a total of only seven publications found) have been forwarded to the Commission Secretariat.

6. Both the family-group names CORYNIDAE Johnston, 1836 (Cnidaria) and CORYNINAE Benson, 1938 (Insecta) are correctly formed and are in general use. Raising AMASINI Gussakovskij, 1947 to subfamily rank and replacing CORYNINAE Benson, 1938 would cause considerable confusion, because since Benson's (1968) revision, *Corynis* Thunberg, 1789 has almost consistently been used as the valid name of the only included genus, whereas *Amasis* Leach, 1817 has been used as valid only rarely and possibly only inadvertently (e.g. in the original description of *Amasis valkanovi* Vasilev, 1969, pp. 695–696, a junior subjective synonym of *Corynis obscura* (Fabricius, 1775) according to Taeger et al. (2010, p. 199)). To remove the homonymy, it is therefore proposed, in accordance with Article 29.1 of the Code, to presume that the -is in *Corynis* is the Greek suffix of which the genitive would be -idos as explained in para. 4 above, so that the hymenopteran family-group name based on it would become CORYNIDINAE. As required by Article 55.3.1 of the Code this case is referred to the Commission.

7. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:
- (1) to use its plenary power to rule that for the purposes of Article 29 the stem of the generic name *Corynis* Thunberg, 1789 is *Corynid-*;
 - (2) to place the following names on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *Corynis* Thunberg, 1789 (gender: feminine), type species *Tenthredo obscura* Fabricius, 1775 by subsequent designation by Morice & Durrant (1915);
 - (b) *Coryne* Gaertner in Pallas, 1774 (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy *Coryne pusilla* Gaertner in Pallas, 1774;
 - (3) to place the following names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *obscura* Fabricius, 1775, as published in the binomen *Tenthredo obscura* (specific name of the type species of *Corynis* Thunberg, 1789);
 - (b) *pusilla* Gaertner in Pallas, 1774, as published in the binomen *Coryne pusilla* (specific name of the type species of *Coryne* Gaertner in Pallas, 1774);
 - (4) to place the following names on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology:
 - (a) CORYNIDINAE Benson, 1938, type genus *Corynis* Thunberg, 1789 (spelling emended by the ruling in (1) above) (Insecta, Hymenoptera);
 - (b) CORYNIDAE Johnston, 1836, type genus *Coryne* Gaertner in Pallas, 1774 (Cnidaria, Anthoathecata);
 - (5) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology the name CORYNINAE Benson, 1938 (spelling emended to CORYNIDINAE in (1) above).

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